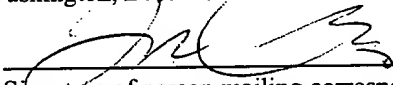


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IN THE UNITED STATES RECEIVING OFFICE (US/RO)

Applicant : President and Fellows of Harvard College
Serial No.: PCT/US99/09034
Filed : 27 April 1999
Title : REGULATION OF BIOFILM FORMATION

Box PCT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

REPLY TO WRITTEN OPINION

In reply to the Written Opinion mailed 31 August 2000, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 22 as follows.

22. (Amended) A method for preventing a bacterial cell from participating in formation of a biofilm on a surface, said method comprising a step selected from the group consisting of: inhibiting the synthesis or function of a *sad* polypeptide; inhibiting